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CLASSIFICATION SECRET/

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COUNTRY East Germany

REPORT NO.

TOPIC Military Information from the Templin troop Training Grounds

EVALUATION 25X1

PLACE OBTAINED

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DATE OF CONTENT 28 August to 18 September 1953

DATE OBTAINED 25X1 DATE PREPARED 8 October 1953

REFERENCES

PAGES 3 ENCLOSURES (NO. & TYPE) 25X1  
(to Army)

REMARKS

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1. Between 1 and 7 September 1953, several firing practices and simulated attacks were observed in the Templin training area. Motor vehicles [redacted]

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[redacted] were seen during the practices.

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2. At about 3:15 p.m. on 4 September, a column of 10 trucks, occupied to capacity by troops, and several vehicles loaded with boxes and equipment passed through Templin, coming from the direction of Eberswalde and proceeding toward the training area.

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At about 10:45 p.m. on 4 September,

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a column of 52 trucks, 12 small armored personnel carriers, 1 armored scout car, 4 sedans and 11 buses, all occupied to capacity by troops, whom source estimated to total about 800 to 1,000 men, passed through Templin, coming from the direction of Eberswalde and proceeding toward Kammernberg-Vogelsang. [redacted]

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5. On 12 August, 20 T-34/85 tanks, 8 SU-152 guns and 17 trucks were loaded on a train, which included 10 boxcars occupied by about 300 troops. in  
 25X1 [redacted]  
 25X1 [redacted]  
 25X1 [redacted]
6. Between 3 and 9 September, little activity was observed at the Kappenberg firing range. The firing practices were mostly held at night. Gun emplacements were identified in the Kappenberg area. Seven T-34/85 tanks [redacted] and SU-152 gun [redacted] were seen with the practicing units during the period under review.  
 25X1 [redacted]  
 25X1 [redacted]
7. On 26 August, road blocks of trenches were being prepared on the Templin-Lychen road extending from the Densow for stry as far as the branch-off to Tangersdorf and around the village of Tangersdorf. Signboards, reading "Soviet Army territory" and "restricted area" were [redacted] near the trenches.  
 25X1 [redacted]
8. During the night on 17 September, a heavy tank was detrained at the Templin railroad station and subsequentl left toward Hammelspring.  
 25X1 [redacted]
9. Between 17 and 18 September, [redacted] motor vehicles were observed in the Templin-Zehdenick area [redacted]  
 25X1 [redacted]
- 25X1 [redacted]
10. On 5 September, [redacted] the following buildings were being erected by the Bau Union Potsdam in Camp Vogelsang: 4 three-story quartering buildings for EM, about 60 x 12 meters; 2 three-story quartering buildings for officers, about 50 x 12 meters; 1 three-story headquarters building, about 60 x 12 meters, 1 three-story kitchen building, about 40 x 10 meters; 1 bakery; and 4 tank sheds, each with about 40 bays, about 120 x 8 meters.<sup>4</sup>  
 25X1 [redacted]
11. At about 6:45 p.m. on 9 September, 2 sidecar motorcycles, occupied by soldiers wearing red-bordered black epaulets; and 2 half-track armored personnel carriers, towing 76-mm field guns, left the cantonment about 1 km west of Hammelspring, proceeding toward Vogelsang. Fifteen trucks were seen in the camp.  
 25X1 [redacted]
12. Between 14 and 16 September, [redacted] the newly erected quartering buildings northwest of Vogelsang had not yet been occupied. Two soldiers wearing red-bordered black epaulets with tank insignia patrolled the area. Intensive activity was observed at the buildings still under construction, with the plumbing being installed and the roofs being completed. The construction of more officer billets had been started west of the completed buildings. The officer billets were small, wooden, collapsible, detached buildings on brick footing and were 6,000 eastmarks apiece. An architect stated that after the completion of these buildings, construction work would continue in the area adjoining to the north.<sup>4</sup>  
 25X1 [redacted]

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- 25X1 1. [ ] Comment. Normal training activities were continued at the Templin troop training grounds until 9 September. [ ] the training involved units of the 25th Tank Div and, probably, headquarters units of the Fourth Gds Lecz Army, while units of the 6th Gds Necz Div were rotated to the training area from their posts only temporarily.
- 25X1 2. [ ] Comment. [ ] the composition of the column tends to indicate that it involved elements of the Fourth Gds Necz Army which, on 4 September, had left Eberswalde toward the Templin training area. [ ] the column also included units of the 6th Gds Lecz Div. It is undetermined whether the units stayed at the troop training grounds or, in connection with the known command post exercise, proceeded toward southwest. This latter possibility is supported by the fact that, on 5 September, columns of the army passed through Neuruppin, proceeding toward Neustadt/Oosse. [ ]
- 25X1 3. [ ] Comment. The train [ ] which carried to Kaulsdorf units of the 6th Gds Necz Div, was repeatedly reported.
- 25X1 4. [ ] Comment. [ ] the third construction stage of the barracks installations northwest of Vogelsang was to be completed in September 1953. [ ] The planned enlargement of the installation tends to indicate that quartering facilities did not meet the requirements; thus, the information [ ] according to which the Weisse Stadt settlement in Oranienburg allegedly was to be occupied by units of the 25th Tank Div in the fall of 1953, gains credibility.
- 25X1 5. [ ] Comment. [ ] confirms the 83d Gds Hv Tank SP Regt of the 25th Tank Div [at] Prenzlau until 23 June 1953 [ ] confirms the 162d Tank Regt of the 25th Tank Div [at] Oranienburg until 17 August 1953.

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